

REMARKS**Summary of the Office Action**

Claims 14-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated by Pletcher et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,007,630) (hereinafter "Pletcher") in view of Hertz (U.S. Patent No. 4,346,387) (hereinafter "Hertz").

Claims 1-13 are allowed.

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Applicants have canceled rejected claims 14-17 without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, only allowed claims 1-13 remain currently pending.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 14-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated by Pletcher in view of Hertz. The Examiner is thanked for the indication that claims 1-13 are allowed. Accordingly, Applicants have canceled rejected claims 14-17 without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, only allowed claims 1-13 remain currently pending. In light of the Office Action's indication of allowance of remaining claims 1-13, issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution. A favorable action is awaited.

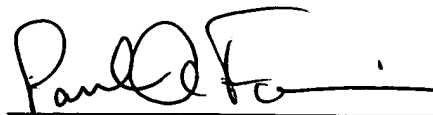
EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0573. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

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By:



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